

L E A

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- The water rushes in, as it doth usually in the leak of a ship.
Whether she sprung a leak I cannot find,
Or whether she was over set with wind,
Or that some rock below her bottom rent,
But down at once with all her crew she went. *Dryden.*
- TO LEAK. *v. n.*
1. To let water in or out.
They will allow us ne'er a jordan, and then we leak in your chimney.
The water, which will perhaps by degrees leak into several parts, may be emptied out again. *Wilkins's Math. Magick.*
His feet should be washed every day in cold water; and have his shoes so thin, that they might leak, and let in water. *Locke.*
2. To drop through a breach.
Golden stars hung o'er their heads,
And seem'd to crowd'd, that they burst upon 'em,
And dart at once their baleful influence
In leaking fire. *Dryden's and Lee's Oedipus.*
- LEAKAGE. *n. f.* [from leak.] Allowance made for accidental loss in liquid measures.
- LEAKY. *adj.* [from leak.]
1. Battered or pierced, so as to let water in or out.
Thou'rt lo leaky,
That we must leave thee to thy sinking; for
Thy dearest joint thee. *Shakep. Antony and Cleopatra.*
If you have not enjoy'd what youth could give,
But life sunk through you like a leaky sieve,
Accuse yourself, you liv'd not while you might. *Dryden.*
2. Loquacious; not close.
Women are so leaky, that I have hardly met with one that could not hold her breath longer than the could keep a secret. *L'Estrange.*
- TO LEAN. *v. n.* *peter. leaned or leant.* [Italian, Saxon; *lenn*, Dutch.]
1. To incline against; to rest against.
Lean thine aged back against mine arm,
And in that case I'll tell thee my disease. *Shakespeare.*
Security is express'd among the medals of Gordianus, by a lady leaning against a pillar, a scepter in her hand, before an altar. *Peacocks Drawing.*
The columns may be allowed somewhat above their ordinary length, because they lean unto so good supporters. *Witt.*
Upon his iv'ry sceptre first he leant,
Then shook his head, that shook the firmament. *Dryden.*
Oppress'd with anguish, panting and o'erspent,
His fainting limbs against an oak he leant. *Dryden's Æn.*
If he be angry, all our other dependencies will profit us nothing; every other support will fail under us when we come to lean upon it, and deceive us in the day when we want it most. *Rogers's Sermons.*
- Then leaning o'er the rails he musing stood,
Mid the central depth of black'ning woods,
High rais'd in solemn theatre around
Leans the huge elephant. *Thomson's Summer.*
2. To propend; to tend towards.
They delight rather to lean to their old customs, though they be more unjust, and more inconvenient. *Speijer.*
Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. *Prov. iii. 5.*
A desire leaning to either side, biases the judgment strangely. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*
3. To be in a bending posture.
She leans me out at her mistress's chamber window, bids me a thousand times good night. *Shakespeare.*
Wearied with length of ways, and worn with toil,
She laid her down; and leaning on her knees,
Invok'd the cause of all her miseries. *Dryden.*
The gods came downward to behold the wars,
Sharpening their fights, and leaning from their stars. *Dryd.*
- LEAN. *adj.* [Italian, Saxon.]
1. Not fat; meagre; wanting flesh; bare-boned.
You tempt the fury of my three attendants,
Lean famine, quivering steel, and climbing fire. *Shakep.*
Lean raw-bon'd rascals! who would e'er suppose,
They had such courage and audacity! *Shakespeare.*
Lean look'd prophets whisper fearful change. *Shakep.*
I would invent as bitter searching terms,
With toll as many signs of deadly hate,
As lean-fac'd envy in her loathsome cave. *Shakespeare.*
Seven other kine came up out of the river, ill-favoured and lean-fleshed. *Gen. xli. 3.*
Let a physician beware how he purge after hard frothy weather, and in a lean body, without preparation. *Bacon.*
And fetch their precepts from the cynic tub,
Praising the lean, and fallow, abstinence. *Milton.*
Swear that Adraustus, and the lean-look'd prophet,
Are joint conspirators. *Dryd. and Lee's Oedipus.*
Lean people often suffer for want of fat, as fat people may by obstruction of the vessels. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
No laughing graces wanton in my eyes;
But haggard grief, lean looking fallow care,
2. Not unctuous; thin; hungry.
There are two chief kinds of terrestrial liquors, those that are fat and light, and those that are lean and more earthy, like common water. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*
3. Low; poor; in opposition to great or rich.
That which combin'd us was most great, and let not
A leaner action rend us. *Shakep. Ant. and Cleopatra.*
- LEAN. *n. f.* That part of flesh which consists of the muscle without the fat.
With razors keen we cut our passage clean
Through rills of fat, and deluges of lean. *Farguivar.*
LEANLY. *adv.* [from lean.] Meagerly; without plumpness.
- LEANNESS. *n. f.* [from lean.]
1. Extenuation of body; want of flesh; meagreness.
If thy leanness loves such food,
There are those, that, for thy sake,
Do enough. *Benj. Johnson's Foreplay.*
The symptoms of too great fluidity are excess of universal secretions, as of perspiration, sweat, urine, liquid discharges, leanness, and weakness. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
2. Want of bulk.
The poor king Reignier, whose large style
Agrees not with the leanness of his purse. *Shakespeare.*
- TO LEAP. *v. n.* [Jleapan, Saxon; *leap*, Scottish.]
1. To jump; to move upward or progressively without change of the feet.
If I could win a lady at leap-frog, or by vaulting into my saddle with my armour on, I should quickly leap into a wife. *Shakespeare's Henry V.*
A man leapeth better with weights in his hands than without; for that the weight, if it be proportionable, strengtheneth the sinews by contracting them. In leaping with weights the arms are first cast backwards and then forwards with so much the greater force; for the hands go backward before they take their rise. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
- In a narrow pit
He saw a lion, and leap'd down to it. *Cowley's Davideis.*
Thrice from the ground his leap'd, was seen to wield
Her brandish'd lance. *Dryden's Æn.*
2. To rush with vehemence.
God changed the spirit of the king into mildness, who in a fear leap'd from his throne, and took her in his arms, till she came to herself again. *Ezra. xv. 8.*
After he went into the tent, and found her not, he leaped out to the people. *Judith xiv. 17.*
He ruin upon ruin heaps,
And on me, like a furious giant, leaps. *Sandys.*
Strait leaping from his horie he rais'd me up. *Rowe.*
3. To bound; to spring.
Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy. *Luke vi. 23.*
I am warm'd, my heart
Leaps at the trumpet's voice, and burns for glory. *Addison.*
4. To fly; to start.
He parted frowning from me, as if ruin
Leap'd from his eyes: so looks the chafed lion
Upon the daring huntsman that has gall'd him;
Then makes him nothing. *Shakep. Henry VIII.*
Out of his mouth go burning lamps, and sparks of fire leap out. *Job xli. 19.*
- TO LEAP. *v. n.*
1. To pass over, or into, by leaping.
Every man is not of a constitution to leap a gulf for the faving of his country. *L'Estrange.*
As one condemn'd to leap a precipice,
Who sees before his eyes the depth below,
Stops short. *Dryden's Spanish Friar.*
She dares pursue, if they dare lead:
As their example still prevails,
She tempts the stream, or leaps the pales. *Prior.*
2. To compass; as beasts.
Too soon they must not feel the sting of love:
Let him not leap the cow. *Dryden's Georg.*
- LEAP. *n. f.* [from the verb.]
1. Bound; jump; act of leaping.
2. Space passed by leaping.
After they have carried their riders safe over all leaps, and through all dangers, what comes of them in the end but to be broken-winded. *L'Estrange.*
3. Sudden transition.
Wickedness comes on by degrees, as well as virtue; and sudden leaps from one extreme to another are unnatural. *L'Estrange's Fables.*
The commons wrested even the power of chuling a king intirely out of the hands of the nobles; which was to great a leap, and caus'd such a convulsion in the state, that the constitution could not bear. *Swift.*
4. An assault of an animal of prey.
The cat made a leap at the mouse. *L'Estrange.*
5. Embrace of animals.
How the cheats her bellowing lovers eyes;
The rulling leap, the doubtful progeny. *Dryden's Æn.*